

AGRICULTURAL



Storage of Corn.

The relation of a perfect stand to increased crop yields has been so effectively demonstrated that the best method of storing grain becomes a matter of vital interest to all corn growers. A test was made last year to determine what the effect of storing corn in a dry room, on racks in the barn, in the warming oven of a stove and in a corncrib would have on the germinating powers of the seed the following spring.

The per cent of germination was lowest with the corn stored in the crib, as would naturally be expected, as the seed was exposed to the widely varying temperatures which prevailed during the winter season. The germination was practically the same with the samples stored in a dry room and on racks in the barn, though these methods of storing had but little advantage over the use of the warming oven. Considerable difference was witnessed, however, in the strength of the germinations from corn kept in the several ways indicated. The grain from the corn stored in the crib showed the least vigor of germination, the best results being obtained from the corn stored in the racks in the barn, followed quite closely by that stored in a dry room. The corn stored in the warming oven germinated fairly well in all except two instances. In one the germination was remarkably low, due either to a poor ear or to the fact that the corn may have been overheated at some time.—Exchange.

Heavy Hay Tonnage.

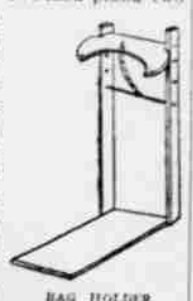
"By methods that are perfectly practicable to you we at the college are getting fifty-four tons of hay from twelve acres. First we have our land well tilled," said Professor Gilbert, of the Maine station, in addressing a recent farmers' meeting. "Why is there so much rundown land, is it low in fertility? No, it has been lying in grass too long. There are lots of fertility, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash; what it needs is plowing up and rotation."

"Flow poor land in the fall, and by spring there will be air in it, harrow it well in the spring, pulverize it by harrowing it over and over again. Then seed with oats and grass, and the next year you will have a good crop of grass, and clover the next year. A good rotation of potatoes on sod land, using commercial fertilizer; the next year cover with stable dressing, then oats and grass with no fertilizer; the next year, grass and clover, with top-dressing of fertilizer. Our mixture of grass seed to the acre is eleven pounds timothy, six redtop, four red clover and four alsike."

"For the top-dressing 250 pounds to the acre of a fertilizer carrying 3 per cent nitrogen, 7 per cent phosphoric acid, 6 per cent potash. The grass should be cut while in bloom." After explaining why it should be done, he continued, "After the first crop is cut, 150 pounds of the same fertilizer to the acre should be applied."

Easily Made Bag Holder.

I describe a handy sack holder, useful on a farm. It has two upright pieces of 2x2 and a two-inch plank two feet long which the upright pieces are fastened to. About four or five inches from the top bore two holes exactly opposite each other and place through these holes a long bolt. Take a piece of plank or board and cut it to fit between the two uprights and place the bolt through his board so it will work easily. Cut his board in a half circle to fit the sack. Drive nails through this board around this half circle to fasten sack on. This board can be raised or lowered to the height of sack and is held in place by means of an iron rod which is fastened on the uprights about two feet from the bottom.



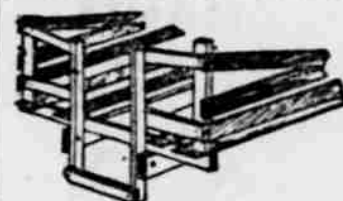
BAG HOLDER.

Agriculture's Amazing Growth.

How can any country be hard up whose farms in the last nine years have produced fifty-three thousand millions of dollars' worth of crops? No wonder that the report of the Secretary of Agriculture is full of thanksgiving flavor and that he is unaffected by causes for gloom that work on other men. The value of the farm products for 1907 is nearly seven and one-half billions of dollars; 10 per cent above that of 1906, when all records of crops were broken; 25 per cent over 1903, and 57 per cent over 1890. More than 3,000,000 acres of land that used to be considered valueless, "the home of the cactus and the prairie dog," are now producing \$30,000,000 worth of crops every year; and these crops are directly due to Secretary Wilson, who imported the Mediterranean durum wheats at a first cost of \$10,000 and saw that they were planted there. Irrigation farming, due wholly to the department, will this year sell crops for not less than \$250,000,000, which is not contemptible, in view of the fact that the Department of Agriculture costs only about \$15,000,000 a year. Yet the work of the department is by no means on such a scale as the natural resources of the country warrant and will one day make possible. Surveyors declare that not one-half the farms of the country—420,000,000 acres, to be exact—can be classed as improved land, and only one-third, or 290,000,000 acres, is fruitful. Many years will pass before all this ground is put under cultivation, but the time will come when it will be producing abundant crops and supporting hundreds of millions of human beings.—Chicago Journal.

Convenient Hayrack.

Many basket hay racks are built in such a fashion in the rear that to climb into them presents an especially irksome task to a man, more so after having lifted hay or pitched bundles all day. In the sketch presented of the



HAY RACK.

rear end of a rack we have tried to illustrate how the task of climbing into the rack might be made easier. But little extra work and material will be required and at the same time the contents of the rack are held very nearly as good as if the end pieces extended clear across.

Fertilizer for Onions.

Professor John B. Smith, the Entomologist of the New Jersey Experiment Station, in a bulletin on the cabbage and onion maggots, just issued, refers to the necessity of a quick-acting fertilizer in conjunction with planting at the right time, and recommends the following formula, recommended in earlier reports: Nitrate of soda, 700 pounds; acid phosphate, 1,000 pounds; muriate of potash, 300 pounds. This, he said, in the case of radishes, can be applied as a top dressing along the rows, before they are planted, or just after they are up, at the rate of 500 pounds per acre. Similar applications can be made on turnips or onions. I believe that a fertilizer compounded after this formula, or the application of the three ingredients separately, at a proportionate rate, would in most cases be followed by good results. The combination has about 5 per cent nitrogen in its most available form, 7 per cent phosphoric acid, and 7 1/2 per cent potash. A ton of it would cost in the neighborhood of \$32 to \$35.

Proper Fruit Packing.

A great many farmers and fruit growers seem to ignore the conditions attending the journey which their wares must take before they reach the hands and eyes of the consumers. The methods of transportation, customs of the trade, the markets' fashions as regards style, size and form of package, all must be well understood, for they are as important as the growing of the crop.

The government of Spain has just started in to foster its agricultural industry by sending touring lecturers over the country.

FACTS ABOUT GRAPE JUICE.

Refreshing Beverage, Made with or Without Water—Its Use.

The popularity of the grape juice both as a beverage and a flavoring has certainly increased during the last few years, says the New York Tribune. Some women, who years ago began to prepare it to use at communion instead of fermented wine, have found it delicious in desserts, as well as a refreshing drink, made festive with sprigs of mint and slices of lemon. Here are several good ways to prepare unfermented grape juice: Pick the grapes off the stems, put them in a covered stone jar and set the jar in a pot of boiling water. Let the water boil around the jar for half an hour, or until the grapes are well cooked. Strain the juice from the grapes and let it stand in a cool place over night. In the morning bring the juice to the boiling point and let it boil for twenty minutes. Add sugar to suit the taste. Fill heated fruit jars to the brim and seal tightly. This rule is an old Tribune recipe and is very rich, as no water is used when cooking the grapes. It should be diluted with a little ice water when used as a beverage.

Here is a rule for unfermented grape juice in which water is used: Pick over the grapes, rejecting all unsound ones. Put in a porcelain lined kettle and almost cover with cold water. Heat slowly, mashing the grapes and cooking until all the juice is out. Drain in a jelly bag and measure the liquid, adding one-third of a cupful of granulated sugar for each quart. Boil for four minutes, then bottle and seal.

The following recipe was sent by a Tribune subscriber some time ago. Its special advantage is that the measurements are exact and little is left to one's judgment, an advantage which a young or inexperienced preserver will appreciate:

To twelve quarts of grapes, stemmed and washed, add three pints of water. Boil them in a porcelain lined kettle until soft; strain and to every three quarts of juice add a pound of sugar. Heat to the boiling point and seal in air-tight cans.

An old housewife who has had much experience in making grape juice for church purposes gives the following points, which may be of use to those who have had little experience. She says that she finds cheesecloth the best thing for straining the juice and that if the stems of the grapes are left on the juice seems to strain out better, as they break up the thick mass of cooked grapes, making it less compact. She uses ordinary glass fruit jars. She puts them in a pan of hot water with hot water in them and a granite plate on the stove with water in it. Stand one hot jar, empty, at a time on the plate; put its rubber ring on it. Fill to overflowing with boiling hot juice; seal at once as tightly as possible. Before you put away the jars test them by carefully turning them upside down. If juice begins to exude put the contents into the preserving kettle again. Try another top and fill to overflowing with water from the tea kettle. If, when filling the jars, there is not quite enough juice for the last jar, always fill up with ordinary boiling water until it overflows. This last jar will not be quite so rich in quality as the others, but it will keep, as it would not were the jar not completely full. Do not put the jars where there is a possibility of their freezing, but keep in a cold place.

Vindicated at Last.

An up-State correspondent has found in an old scrap book a bit of verse that bears out the theory advanced by Congressman Roberts of Utah, that Adam was the most chivalrous of all men, and only ate the forbidden fruit because he would not be separated from Eve. Seeing this mentioned in last Tuesday's Noregay column he sent on a copy of the verse. It reads: Daughters of Eve, your mother did not sell.

She placed the apple in your father's hand. Adam was not deceived, nor yet could stand;

For love of her he gave his throne, With her could die, but could not live alone.

—Philadelphia Record.

Much Impressed.

Professor of Natural History (at the Zoo)—In the animal creation, some of the works of nature fill us with awe and admiration for their stupendous size and weight, and the colossal proportions on which they are modeled. Here, for instance, is the hippopotamus

Giggly Puppi—Ain't he cute?—Baltimore American.

It Pays.

"How do you find things out this way?" asked the stranger.

"By advertising for 'em," was the prompt reply of the native.—Detroit Free Press.

Getting Friendly.

"When you told papa that your salary was \$100 a week, did he consent to our marriage?"

"No, but he invited me to join his poker club."

Pulse of the Press

As usual, the innocent bystander is one of the worst parts of a bank run.—New York Mail.

The diabolo craze may not last long. There was a ping-pong spasm once.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Now, then, get down to business and pick out your candidate for President.—Philadelphia Press.

The average man whose wife is a good cook doesn't care how freakish her hats look.—Washington Post.

The Westinghouse concerns might have used some of their own airbrakes to advantage.—Philadelphia Press.

The cost of funerals has gone up. Another increase in the "cost of living"—for the survivors.—New York World.

We are making financial history, but the prophets are not agreed as to the final chapter.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

It looks as if that reduction in the wholesale price of meat would be a long time getting to the consumer.—Philadelphia Press.

If Saturn is getting tired of its rings, perhaps King Edward might utilize one to set his \$750,000 diamond in.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

More elasticity of the currency and less elasticity of the financial conscience are desiderata of equal importance.—New York Sun.

An Indiana woman went to jail rather than pay a fine of 1 cent. That sounds like economy carried to excess.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

In New Jersey seven physicians have been elected Mayors. Those cities must have been sick of the way things were going.—Philadelphia Press.

A panic may be "a blessing in disguise," but most of us would prefer to have our blessings put on a more cheerful front.—Washington Post.

Ocean freight rates are to be increased at an early date, but it is hoped that all that foreign gold will get is first.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

The great drawback about a peanut diet is that after you get used to it you won't enjoy peanuts at the circus and ball games.—Washington Post.

The great majority of American citizens only know that there are new \$10 coins in circulation because they read 't in the papers.—Washington Post.

Regardless of panics and politics, the chorus girl continues her conquering march through princes, belted ears and mere millionaires.—New York Mail.

The Kaiser is said to have left \$10,000 in tips at Windsor Castle. What a welcome visitor he would be here at the present moment!—New York Sun.

Jerome K. Jerome says he is back in this country for some new jokes. He is likely to soon find out that the cost of living here is not one.—Washington Post.

Now if the motto on dimes were the subject under discussion, it would be something that all of us could talk about more intelligently.—New York Mail.

It seems that the per capita circulation in 1903 was \$23.23, while now it is \$33.23. We hope none of the hoarders is alarmed over that 23.—New York Tribune.

Brokers' wives, owing to the tightness of things monetary, have resolved to play bridge only sixteen hours a day instead of twenty, as heretofore.—New York Mail.

There is nothing whatever in business or financial conditions in this country to cause uneasiness to any man who is engaged in an honest business.—Washington Post.

There will be a further drop in the prices of provisions and meats," says an Armour manager. "Further?" Has anyone noticed the previous drop?—New York World.

At the Weather Bureau these days they are enjoying a delightful new game, known as "Earthquake, earthquake, who's got the earthquake?"—Washington Herald.

A seat on the New York Stock Exchange has dropped to the insignificant sum of \$53,000. Doubtless, standing room is down as low as \$38,326.17.—Washington Herald.

Japan is buying great quantities of American-made steel rails. Let her alone! A rattling good railroad problem will give her all the war she wants at home.—Atlanta Constitution.

A Pennsylvania judge announces that applicants for divorce must prepay costs. Why not be forehanded and insert a divorce codicil in the marriage certificate?—Philadelphia Press.

That Massachusetts case, in which a man got a divorce from his wife because she went through his pockets every night, was probably raised before the money stringency came on.—Philadelphia Press.

Weak Lungs Bronchitis

For over sixty years doctors have endorsed Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for coughs, colds, weak lungs, bronchitis, consumption. You can trust a medicine the best doctors approve. Then trust this the next time you have a hard cough.

"I had an awful cough for over a year, and nothing seemed to do me any good. I tried Ayer's Cherry Pectoral and was soon cured. I recommend it to all my friends whenever they have a cough."—Miss M. Mayhew, Washington, D. C.



Ayer's Pills keep the bowels regular. All vegetable and gently laxative.

Lightning clouds are always near the ground. They are seldom at a greater height than 2,000 feet.

Prince Louis Napoleon is a general in the Russian army. This is not a reminder of Moscow, 1812.

HOME MADE MIXTURE

SAID TO BE INEXPENSIVE AND EASILY PREPARED BY ANYONE.

Is Said to Promptly Relieve Backache and Overcome Kidney Trouble and Bladder Weakness Though Harmless and Pleasant to Take.

What will appear very interesting to many people here is the article taken from a New York daily paper, giving a simple prescription, as formulated by a noted authority, who claims that he has found a positive remedy to cure almost any case of backache or kidney or bladder derangement, in the following simple prescription, if taken before the stage of Bright's disease:

Fluid Extract Uandelion, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three ounces. Shake well in a bottle and take in teaspoonful doses after each meal and again at bedtime.

A well known authority, when asked regarding this prescription, stated that the ingredients are all harmless, and can be obtained at a small cost from any good prescription pharmacy, or the mixture would be put up if asked to do so. He further stated that while this prescription is often prescribed in rheumatic afflictions with splendid results, he could see no reason why it would not be a splendid remedy for kidney and urinary troubles and backache, as it has a peculiar action upon the kidney structure, cleansing these most important organs and helping them to sift and filter from the blood the foul acids and waste matter which cause sickness and suffering. Those who suffer can make no mistake in giving it a trial.

In France for the privilege of wearing men's trousers the government charges women a tax of about \$10.

One of the Essentials

of the happy homes of to-day is a vast fund of information as to the best methods of promoting health and happiness and right living and knowledge of the world's best products.

Products of actual excellence and reasonable claims truthfully presented and which have attained to world-wide acceptance through the approval of the Well-Informed of the World; not of individuals only, but of the many who have the happy faculty of selecting and obtaining the best the world affords.

One of the products of that class, of known component parts, an Ethical remedy, approved by physicians and commended by the Well-Informed of the World as a valuable and wholesome family laxative is the well-known Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna. To get its beneficial effects always buy the genuine, manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only, and for sale by all leading druggists.

The Sower Has No Second Chance Good sows say make the most of the first.

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tution say it will reopen.